

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel original claims 1-38 and add new claims 39-41 as follows.

1-38. (Canceled)

39. (New) A method of rendering infectious prions non-infectious, comprising the steps of: contacting infectious prions with a formulation comprising a cationic detergent; and maintaining the formulation with an acid chosen from peracetic acid and acetic acid at a pH in a range of from about 2.5 to about 4.5 and at a temperature in a range of from about 15°C to about 140°C so as to render the infectious prions completely non-infectious in two hours or less.

40. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the cationic detergent is dodecyltrimethylammonium bromide (DTAB).

41. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the cationic detergent is cetyltrimethylammonium bromide (CTAB).